



The

# MARKETPLACE

For Recycling Commodities

Kentucky Recycling Assistance Section

December 2012

## U.S. Post-Consumer Recycled Plastic Demand on the Rise

According to *Waste and Recycling News*, demand for U.S. post-consumer recycled plastic is expected to rise 6.5 percent per year to nearly 3.5 billion pounds in 2016, according to the "Recycled Plastics" study conducted by Freedonia Group Inc, a Cleveland-based industry market research firm.

The speculated increase—nearly one billion more pounds than last year's demand—is attributed to growing emphasis on sustainability among packaging and consumer product manufacturers, improved processing and sorting technologies that can handle more plastic resins, and improved collection infrastructures.

According to the study, support by federal, state and local governments for recycling efforts will help boost recycled plastic collection, processing and demand, but the overall U.S. plastic recycling rate will remain relatively low through 2016, with less than 7 percent of total plastic demand. Some of the challenges include minimal recycling in construction products, motor vehicles and packaging film.

Packaging will continue to lead the recycled plastic market in 2016, the study said, while plastic bottles will account for more than half of all plastic collected. Last year, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) and high density polyethylene (HDPE) were the two leading resins used in recycled products, accounting for more than 70 percent of demand.

PET will see "average gains" in demand, the study found, due to increased recycled content in bottles and thermoformed containers. HDPE will see fewer increases and will limit the availability of recycled resin.

Polystyrene, nylon and other smaller volume resins will see rapid growth, due to increased collection of products such as consumer electronics, carpet and plastic foam.

## Tips for Having a Green Christmas

Christmas is just around the corner, and here are some tips for keeping your days merry and keen and all your Christmases green:

- **Wrapping paper:** do not use foil wrapping paper or cellophane since those cannot be easily recycled; stick to regular wrapping
- **Boxes:** flatten and recycle or store for next year boxes that your gifts come in
- **Tissue paper:** store and reuse for other gifts throughout the year
- **Bows and ribbons:** use cloth ribbons or save and reuse for birthday and holiday gifts
- **Holiday cards:** recycle with your paper goods; save for scrapbooking or use the covers as gift tags for next Christmas
- **Shopping:** buy products packaged with the recycling symbol; buy bulk items and refills, when possible; bring your own shopping bag
- **Holiday dinners and parties:** request that your leftovers be wrapped in tin foil (which can be recycled once clean) instead of Styrofoam (which is tricky to recycle); use real plates instead of paper or Styrofoam

## Creative Recycling Systems

The e-Scrap contract period for January 2009 through November 2012 brought the total pounds collected to 11,198,611 lbs. or 5,599 net tons. Reimbursements climbed to \$416,469.17, with charges of \$117,535.37. The net revenue to generators for the period was \$289,554.65.

Contact Tom Heil at 502-564-6716, ext. 4640 or at [Thomas.Heil@ky.gov](mailto:Thomas.Heil@ky.gov) and click on <http://waste.ky.gov/RLA/recycling/Pages/ElectronicsRecycling.aspx> if you have questions about electronic recycling.



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| COMMODITY                              | Jun-12                                                                                  | Jul-12        | Aug-12        | Sep-12        | Oct-12        | Nov-12        | Dec-12        | Dec-11        |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b><u>PAPER-\$/TON</u></b>             | <b>Official Board Markets (Chicago area) FOB</b>                                        |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| -                                      | <b>Jun-12</b>                                                                           | <b>Jul-12</b> | <b>Aug-12</b> | <b>Sep-12</b> | <b>Oct-12</b> | <b>Nov-12</b> | <b>Dec-12</b> | <b>Dec-11</b> |
| #2 mixed paper                         | \$70-75                                                                                 | \$60-65       | \$50-55       | \$35-40       | \$35-40       | \$35-40       | \$45-50       | \$65-75       |
| #37 sorted office paper (SOP)          | \$145-155                                                                               | \$165-175     | \$165-175     | \$155-165     | \$135-145     | \$135-145     | \$135-145     | \$115-125     |
| #6 ONP                                 | \$30-35                                                                                 | \$30-35       | \$30-35       | \$15-20       | \$15-20       | \$15-20       | \$15-20       | \$30-35       |
| #8 ONP                                 | \$90-95                                                                                 | \$80-85       | \$70-75       | \$60-65       | \$50-55       | \$55-60       | \$65-70       | \$80-85       |
| #40 sorted white ledger (SWL)          | \$240-250                                                                               | \$240-250     | \$240-250     | \$220-230     | \$210-220     | \$200-210     | \$200-210     | \$250-260     |
| #11 OCC                                | \$90-100                                                                                | \$90-95       | \$75-80       | \$60-65       | \$60-65       | \$70-75       | \$75-80       | \$90-95       |
| <b><u>PLASTICS-¢/LB.</u></b>           | <b>Market sources serving KY &amp; Waste and Recycling News Commodity Pricing - FOB</b> |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| -                                      | <b>Jun-12</b>                                                                           | <b>Jul-12</b> | <b>Aug-12</b> | <b>Sep-12</b> | <b>Oct-12</b> | <b>Nov-12</b> | <b>Dec-12</b> | <b>Dec-11</b> |
| #1 PET - mixed (clear & green)         | \$0.21                                                                                  | \$0.18        | \$0.17        | \$0.19        | \$0.19        | \$0.17        | \$0.17        | \$0.24        |
| #2 HDPE (natural-milk jugs)            | \$0.31                                                                                  | \$0.28        | \$0.30        | \$0.31        | \$0.31        | \$0.28        | \$0.26        | \$0.31        |
| #2 HDPE (colored-detergent btl.)       | \$0.24                                                                                  | \$0.21        | \$0.24        | \$0.25        | \$0.25        | \$0.18        | \$0.16        | \$0.21        |
| <b><u>GLASS-\$/TON</u></b>             | <b>Waste and Recycling News Commodity Pricing - Delivered</b>                           |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| -                                      | <b>Jun-12</b>                                                                           | <b>Jul-12</b> | <b>Aug-12</b> | <b>Sep-12</b> | <b>Oct-12</b> | <b>Nov-12</b> | <b>Dec-12</b> | <b>Dec-11</b> |
| clear (flint)                          | \$32.00                                                                                 | \$33.00       | \$32.00       | \$32.00       | \$32.00       | \$33.00       | \$33.00       | \$33.00       |
| brown (amber)                          | \$22.00                                                                                 | \$23.00       | \$22.00       | \$22.00       | \$22.00       | \$23.00       | \$22.00       | \$23.00       |
| green                                  | \$11.00                                                                                 | \$11.00       | \$11.00       | \$11.00       | \$11.00       | \$11.00       | \$11.00       | \$11.00       |
| <b><u>METALS</u></b>                   | <b>Waste and Recycling News Commodity Pricing - Delivered</b>                           |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| -                                      | <b>Jun-12</b>                                                                           | <b>Jul-12</b> | <b>Aug-12</b> | <b>Sep-12</b> | <b>Oct-12</b> | <b>Nov-12</b> | <b>Dec-12</b> | <b>Dec-11</b> |
| aluminum beverage cans (UBC) cents/lb. | \$0.73                                                                                  | \$0.70        | \$0.69        | \$0.71        | \$0.81        | \$0.75        | \$0.80        | \$0.81        |
|                                        | <b>Waste and Recycling News Commodity Pricing - Delivered</b>                           |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |
|                                        | <b>Jun-12</b>                                                                           | <b>Jul-12</b> | <b>Aug-12</b> | <b>Sep-12</b> | <b>Oct-12</b> | <b>Nov-12</b> | <b>Dec-12</b> | <b>Dec-11</b> |
| steel cans \$/TON                      | \$120-130                                                                               | \$110-120     | \$120-140     | \$110-120     | \$110-120     | \$110-120     | \$110-120     | \$115-120     |



Energy and  
Environment Cabinet

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